



It's a

# Fantastic Fall!

at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs

Check out the featured fall events listed below. Details are available for each of these events online at [www.interpretiveservices.IN.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.IN.gov). See the listings for your favorite property for even more opportunities to play in the outdoors this autumn.

## September



### September 10

- Don't miss the **Mighty Mississinewa Triathlon** at Mississinewa Lake. Spectators and racers alike enjoy a beautiful autumn setting and the excitement of a fast paced mini-triathlon. Register to swim 500 yards, bike 16.6 road miles and run 3.75 miles at [www.in.gov/dnr/uwis/triathlon/index.html](http://www.in.gov/dnr/uwis/triathlon/index.html). Proceeds will be invested in a fund managed by the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation and used for land purchases.
- McCormick's Creek State Park will be hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **BBQ and Blues Festival** from 2pm to 8pm, outdoors at the Nature Center. Food vending will be provided by Smokin' Jack's Rib Shack, while musical performances will be by the Blue Rivas, The Freddie Shaw Band and King Bee and the Stingers. Later in the evening, at 9:30 pm, the Stone Belt Stargazers will be hosting a Star Party at Pine Bluff Shelter.
- Tippecanoe River State Park hosts **River Bank Clean-Up Day**. Volunteers are encouraged to come and help clean up the river bank. Gate fees will be waived for participants, trash bags and gloves will be provided, and all refuse collected will be disposed of by park staff.
- The Lincoln Amphitheatre at Lincoln State Park presents **Field of Dreams** in their **Classic Family Films Series**. Showtime is 8 p.m. CDT and monetary donations are accepted. Lincoln Amphitheatre offers a full-service concession stand with items for purchase.

### September 10-11

- Indiana Dunes State Park **History Comes Alive Weekend** features French Fur Trader Re-enactors, history themed programs, and a special musical performance by Lee Murdock, Songs of the Great Lakes on Saturday night at 6:30pm.
- The **Cornbread Festival** comes to Mansfield, Indiana. The Mansfield Roller Mill will be presenting corn grinding demonstrations both days. There will be a car show on Sunday!

### September 11

- **Free Admission to all State Parks and Reservoirs on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11.** In honor of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11, we invite you to visit an Indiana state park, reservoir or state forest. No gate admission will be charged on Sunday, 9/11/11. All other activity fees will remain in effect. Plan a picnic, go for a walk, take a bike ride, sit in a horse saddle, fish or boat or enjoy your favorite outdoor recreation activity. Make the day one of peace and remembrance either on your own or with family and friends.

#### September 12-15

- **Salamonie Senior Fall Fest**, where adults are invited to "Remember When at Salamonie Lake." Make cider, sauerkraut and mozzarella cheese, enjoy time with others, look over antique and dusty items from granny's attic, and compete in a contest to slop the hogs, husk corn, milk the cow and even 'kill' a few rats.

#### September 16-18

- At **Salamonie Riders Rendezvous** horse enthusiasts reunion includes back country horsemen tips, a survivor contest, cowboy poetry and a meal. Registration requested.

#### September 17

- Patoka Lake hosts the 10th Annual **Wheelin' in the Fish** for people with special needs and their families from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Osborn Boat Ramp on Patoka Lake. It will include a day of fishing and free boat rides. All participants get free use of fishing equipment, bait, and even free lunch!
- McCormick's Creek State Park in partnership with the White River Valley Archaeological Association will be hosting Archaeology Day from 10am – 4pm at the Nature Center. The day will feature displays of various points, stone tools, on-site experts to help you identify your artifact and an atlatl toss in the afternoon.
- The Lincoln Amphitheatre at Lincoln State Park presents **Rudy** in their **Classic Family Films Series**. Showtime is 8 p.m. CDT and monetary donations are accepted. Lincoln Amphitheatre offers a full-service concession stand with items for purchase.
- **Environmental Good Turn Day** at Brown County State Park allows you to join other service clubs in park projects; DNR Volunteer sign-up form required of all participants; Meet at the nature center at 9am.
- In the **Tri-Kappa Candlelight Tour**, Spring Mill's Pioneer Village will come to life as Tri Kappa members, their friends and families, and the park staff, open all the buildings for this annual tour in conjunction with Persimmon Festival in Mitchell, IN. Portrayals of pioneer life and music from Bluegrass to Gospel will fill the air. Tri-Kappa will also host a concession area at the Carriage House, selling hotdogs, cider, caramel corn and other goodies.

#### September 17-18

- **Falls Fossil Festival** at Falls of the Ohio State Park in Clarksville focuses on fossils, minerals and general geology. Event features vendors, collecting piles from quarries, hikes on the famous Devonian fossil beds, guest speakers, geo-craft activities for children, and more. For details visit: [http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/special\\_events.html](http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/special_events.html). Event times are 9 - 6 on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 - 5 on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The **Hoosier Outdoor Experience** comes to Fort Harrison State Park: Shooting, archery, canoeing, dogs, off-road vehicals, mountain biking and over 50 other outdoor events are available free from 9am-6pm each day.

#### September 23-25

- Join us at Hardy Lake for the annual **Raptor Days Celebration**. This event focuses on our native birds of prey and will include live bird of prey presentations, pontoon rides, wagon rides, and tours of the Dwight Chamberlain Raptor Center. Friday the 23rd is schools day. All schools planning to attend should make reservations by calling 812-794-2244.
- Check out Indiana Dunes State Park **Geocacher's Campout**. Join other GPS enthusiasts for a weekend of geocaching fun and a potluck dinner Saturday night at Wilson Shelter.

#### September 23-24

- It's **Wild Turkey Weekend** at Harmonie State Park, celebrating the historic wild turkey in Indiana and its success story as a comeback bird. There'll be turkey trivia, turkey calling, turkey track-making and turkey jeopardy. Bring your bird brain and strut on over for a fun, feathered weekend!

#### September 24

- Enjoy Chain O' Lakes **Apple Cider Pressing Day**. *Bring* your own apples and juice containers and use an old-fashioned cider press to crank out some great apple cider. It takes about 5-6 pounds of apples to make 1/2 gallon of cider so please plan accordingly. Call ahead if you plan on crushing 1+ bushel of apples. Pressing will be from 9-11am and 12:30-3pm.

#### September 24 (continued)

- Come spend a day working with DNR staff at Turkey Run State Park during **National Public Lands Day**. See what it's like to work for the DNR while giving something back to the parks you love. Special programs that day include bird feeding, a star show, a rugged hike, and a premier viewing of *Green Fire: The Life and Legacy of Aldo Leopold*. Call 765-597-2654 for details or to pre-register.
- Upgrade your personal wellness program with the annual "**Run The Falls 5k**" **Walk/Run** co-sponsored by Clifty Falls State Park and Madison's King's Daughters Hospital! It's also Chautauqua weekend in Madison. Call 812-273-0609 or 812-265-0619 for fees and registration details.
- Participate in a **National Public Lands work day** at Fort Harrison State Park. Ages 16 and above can work with the Amos Butler Audubon Society and the Central Indiana Land Trust to remove invasive and exotic plants. Meet at 9am at the Fort Harrison State Park Office
- Raccoon SRA will be hosting the annual **Traditional Archery Day!** Bring your long and recurve bows out to the archery range, and enjoy a nice relaxing day of shooting. That morning we will also be holding a workshop to teach shooting techniques and safety to those who are new to the sport or want to refresh their skills.
- Lincoln State Park and Colonel Jones Home host a **Public Archaeology Dig** from 9am – 3pm CDT. Join park staff, professional archaeologists, and costumed interpreters as we work together to find clues about Colonel Jones and Abraham Lincoln at the Colonel Jones Home in Gentryville. Visitors will take part in the process of digging and screening for artifacts. The event is free but donations for the upkeep of the facility are welcome.
- Help out with **Pick Up Patoka 2011!** Sign in at 8am at Lick Fork Ramp, South Lick Fork Ramp, Newton Stewart Ramp or Painter Creek Ramp. All participating volunteers will be rewarded with FREE entrance into the property for the day and a FREE lunch at Newton Stewart Shelter House from 11a.m. – 1p.m. Bring insect repellent, work gloves, boots, long pants, and sunscreen for this event. Gloves, trash bags, food and drinks will be provided. For more information call Dana at the Patoka Lake Visitor Center (812)685-2447.
- **Autumn Harvest Hoedown** kicks off at Pokagon State Park from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. For 27 years the Prairie Fire String Band has set up in the South Beach Parking Lot to provide an evening of music and group dancing. Local Boy Scout troop provides a cookout and everyone gets warm around the big fire or out dancing. No experience needed for dancing, a square dance caller provides the instruction. It's great family fun!

#### September 24-25

- Discover historic and pre-historic archaeology at Mounds State Park during **Archaeology Weekend**, and see what story it reveals! Join in for artifact i.d., archaeologist-led public dig (Sat. only), kid's dig, artifact displays, hands-on activities, hikes, and more.
- Take an **Indiana Hunter Education Class** at Monroe Lake's Paynetown SRA. The class is from 9 am-4 pm Saturday and 9 am-4:30pm Sunday.
- At Potato Creek State Park **Prairie Harvest Weekend**, celebrate the coming of fall as we focus on the prairie and the changing seasons.

#### September 25

- The **Annual Sea Plane Splash-in** is from 8:00am to mid afternoon on the Potawatomi Inn Beach and Lawn. Sea planes from around the Midwest fly in, splash down and spend the day on the Inn Front Lawn. Park guests are welcome to tour the grounds, poke into the planes, visit with pilots, and take a chance on winning a free plane ride! (photos attached)
- McCormick's Creek State Park, the Owen County Family YMCA and the Friends of McCormick's Creek will host a **4 Mile Trail Run/Walk** at 2pm. The race begins at the nature center with race day registration beginning at 1pm. For more information or to register call (812) 828-9622 or visit [www.Mag7RaceSeries.com](http://www.Mag7RaceSeries.com).

#### September 29-October 2

- The **Indiana Audubon Society Fall Festival** is at the Pokagon Potawatomi Inn, featuring three days and two nights of programs, field trips, and entertainment, with leading birders and interpreters from around the Midwest. The Potawatomi Inn provides the perfect home base with great food and meeting accommodations. Further information at <http://www.indianaaudubon.org/Activities/FallFestival2011/tabid/348/Default.aspx>.

## September 29-October 2 (continued)

- Step into the 24<sup>th</sup> annual **Autumn Camping Weekend** at Mississinewa Lake. Visitors are encouraged to compete in the Family Outdoor Adventure Challenge.



## **October**

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### October 1

- Join us at the historic Bronnenberg House for a 9am **Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstration** where you can learn how to make, made from scratch biscuits and gravy. Then enjoy them! Bring a lawn chair if you can (you need not be a camper to join us.) Then at 12 pm, see a lunchtime demonstration with a one bowl meal. Drinks and place setting provided as well. Pre-register by calling (765) 649-8128 or sign-up at the Nature Center; space is limited to first 75 people.
- Spend a night at **Charlestown Under the Stars** from 7 – 11 pm at the field near Clark Shelter in Charlestown State Park. Co-sponsored by the Louisville Astronomical Society, visitors will explore the heavens with telescopes of all sizes. Look at the moon, Jupiter, and celestial wonders in the Milky Way and beyond. Learn how to use a telescope and discover the wonders of the night sky! A cloudy night program will be offered.
- Enjoy the **Trail of Scarecrows** through October 31<sup>st</sup> at Prophetstown State Park. Open to the public, the proceeds from this fundraiser/contest will go towards Prophetstown's interpretive services. Sign up to decorate a scarecrow between September 1-25, then grab a map and follow the "trail of crows" throughout the park in October.
- Take part in the **Youth/Adult Waterfowl Blind Camouflaging** at Monroe Lake's Stillwater-Northfork Hunter Check Station from 9am – 4pm.

### October 1-2

- Visit **Autumn Harvest Days** at Spring Mill, with a celebration of the fall season with crafts, demos, programs, a small harvest fair, and our signature event – the Campsite Decorating Contest on Saturday night! Crafts include leather leaves, leaf color transfer, leather bookmark and pinch pots. Demonstrations include the water-powered gristmill and sawmill, hand-thrown pottery, cornhusk dolls, food preservation, blacksmith forging, woodworking, textile production and leatherworking. Programs include cider and whiskey distillation, animal hibernation prep and garden seed saving.
- Get ready for toe-tapping music at the **Versailles Bluegrass Festival**. There'll be a whole weekend of great music, food, and fun for the whole family. (10am-6pm Saturday and 10am-4pm Sunday). Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs.

### October 7-9

- **Mississinewa 1812** is the largest War of 1812 living history event in the United States. Sponsored by the Mississinewa Battlefield Society Inc, Marion, Indiana with the support of the Department of Natural Resources, it is a historical commemoration of the Battle of Mississinewa fought here on December 17-18, 1812. See more info at [www.mississinewa1812.org](http://www.mississinewa1812.org).
- The **Celebration Continues at Autumn Camping Weekend II** at Mississinewa Lake. If you couldn't attend or camp at Autumn Camping Weekend I, check this one out.

### October 8

- Indiana Dunes State Park **NW Indiana Storytellers Festival** includes special storytelling Friday through Saturday, including special ghost stories at the Wilson Shelter Saturday night. Free cider and popcorn are provided.
- At Chain O'Lakes **Pioneer Day**, join a day from the past with crafts and demonstrations from the 19th century. Children, and the young at heart, can make brooms, candles and other crafts plus see some demonstrations. \$1.00 program fee/person.

#### October 8 (continued)

- Sign up for the **Beginner Waterfowl Hunting Workshop** held at the Northfork Service Area at Monroe Lake from 9am-2pm. It includes waterfowl ID, Hunting tools and techniques, draw hunt information, boat and water safety, river and marsh hunting information, laws and regulations.
- **Lincoln's Fall Funfest** features hayrides, crafts and pumpkin painting from noon – 3pm.
- **Autumn on the Farm**, presented by O'Bannon Woods State Park and local volunteers. This event features the Living Pioneer Farmstead, apple butter making, sorghum press demonstrations, pumpkin carving, and traditional music special guests."

#### October 8 and 9

- For **Scarecrow Weekend** the Pioneer Village at Spring Mill State Park transforms on Saturday evening into the Haunted Village, a Costume & Candy Parade winds through the Campground on Saturday afternoon, and Saturday and Sunday are filled with seasonal activities: scarecrow building, pumpkin carving, beaded leather bracelet, clay pumpkins, yarn dolls, leather-stained pumpkin, story of the jack-o-lantern, tin-punching, gingerbread felting, cornhusk scarecrow, life of crows, and sawmill demonstration.
- Salamonie Lake and Indiana State Trappers Association (ISTA) will host a **Trappers Education Course** at the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center. The program will focus on trappers of all ages, though youth trappers are encouraged to attend. Attendees will have two days of hands-on training with trapping instructors and will have a chance to set traps and catch furbearers. To pre-register or to get more information, contact the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center at 260-468-2127.

#### October 9

- See the **Legendary Singing Hoosiers** at Lincoln State Park's Lincoln Amphitheatre at 2 p.m. CDT. Admission is \$10 per person or \$8 per person in a group of ten or more individuals. For more information about the events at Lincoln Amphitheatre, call 800-264-4223 or visit [www.LincolnAmphitheatre.com](http://www.LincolnAmphitheatre.com).

#### October 14-15

- Harmonie State Park hosts **Harmonie Harvest Weekend**, focusing on pioneer times and celebrating the harvest. It includes hayrides, Dutch oven cooking contest, and a Fine Arts and Crafts Show. Look for kettle bean soup for lunch and musical entertainment compliments antique cars & tractors, kids inflatables, petting zoo, heritage crafts and Fire Safety Smoke House.
- Patoka Lake's **Autumn Getaway** is where campers will be decorating their campsites with fall and Halloween decorations. Costumes will be worn by kids, adults, and even their furry four-legged friends during our pet parade and pet costume contest. There will be a basket making workshop and more.

#### October 14-16

- Salamonie Reservoir is holding its third annual **Salamonie Fall Fest** starting October 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a fun fall weekend event where the crew at Salamonie gets a chance to give a little something back to the campers and thank them for another great season.
- Visitors can enjoy Halloween tricks and treats as Mounds State Park offers a variety of fun fall activities for the whole family at the **Kid's Fall Funfest**. Kid-friendly night hikes, campground trick-or-treating, campsite decorating contest, pumpkin carving, and more.

#### October 15

- **Monroe Lake Fall Excursion Geocaching Event** will give geocachers a new opportunity to find treasures in Lake Monroe. Some caches will only be accessible by boat, so if you have boat, bring it, we will have a few canoes available to use. We will finish up the night with the Freddie Shaw Band playing some Blues from 6pm – 7pm.
- **Lincoln's Friends Fall Frolic** features hayrides, crafts and pumpkin painting from noon – 3pm.

#### October 15-16

- Sit back, relax, and enjoy music of the 1800s at the **1800s Music Showcase** at Spring Mill State Park! Limited seating will be available; attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs or blankets. Musicians will be set up

on the front porch of the Upper Residence in the Pioneer Village from 12-5pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> and from 12-4pm on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### October 17-November 13

- The **Saw-whet Owl Banding Station** opens at Indiana Dunes State Park. See the tiny saw-whet owl up close during our informal and public banding nights on Sat, Oct 23 (7pm), Sat, Oct 29 (8pm), and Sun, Oct 30 (7pm) in the Nature Center Auditorium.

#### October 21-22

- Brookville Lake-Whitewater Memorial State Park Complex will once again be hosting the annual **Spooktacular Camping Weekend**. Bring your family to enjoy a fall weekend of activities including BINGO, a cornhole tournament, costume contests, hayrides, haunted hayrides, musical entertainment and more!
- Be prepared to experience our trails like never before with the **Haunted Trail** at Mounds State Park where our guides will walk you into the darkest woods and down the scariest trail! This one-weekend-only Halloween event is a great “fun”draiser for the community, so come on out and see who will scream the loudest.
- The **Fall Halloween Festival** at Shakamak State Park will feature pumpkins, campsite decorating and more.
- Summit Lake State Park will host its 5th annual **Festival of the Freezing Moon**. This years event will feature the annual Chili Cook-off, Trick-or-Treating, Pumpkin Carving Contest, Interpretive Hayrides, and our friendly Stargazer, Steve Russell will be back with his telescopes! New this year is a Masquerade Street Dance on Friday from 8-10 pm.

#### October 22

- Brown County State Park offers a “friendly” **Trick-or-Treat Trail** from 5-6pm and a **Haunted Trail** at 8pm at the Park Office. Don’t miss pumpkin carving and campsite decorating as well.
- Take part in the **Korean War Remembrance** from 10am-4pm at Fort Harrison State Park’s Museum of 20th Century Warfare.
- **Lincoln’s Friends Fall Frolic** features hayrides, crafts and pumpkin painting from noon – 3pm.

#### October 22-23

- Join the Lieber S.R.A. staff for **Gobble-uns Weekend** with pumpkin decorating, leaf print t-shirts, a pumpkin rolling contest, Halloween crafts, a campsite decorating contest, trick-or-treating in the campground, hayrides, a hillbilly golf tournament, and much more fun are on the agenda for the weekend.
- Family fun abounds at “**Awesome Autumn**” **Camper Appreciation Weekend** at Clifty Falls State Park. Enjoy the campsite decorating contest, fall festival games, trick or treat and more! Call 812-273-0609.

#### October 28-29

- **Soldier’s Haunt** at Fort Harrison State Park features a night-time hayride through dark lanes full of goblins, spooks, ghosts, and zombies. Rides begin at 8pm and end at 10pm. Rides are about 45 minutes, for ages 14-up; not suitable for small children. Meet at Delaware Lake/Harrison Trace Trailhead.
- Raccoon SRA’s **Annual Halloween Weekend** includes the Raccowl Egg Hunt, costume, pumpkin carving, and campsite decorating contests; trick or treating, and more!
- Join Ouabache State Park as we welcome autumn during our **Fall Festival**. Meet some “creepy” creatures, take a fall color hike, make a Leaf Man, go trick-or-treating, sit a spell for a straw ride, decorate your campsite, and mosey on down to the Campview Shelter to check out other related fall activities.
- Halloween fun at Prophetstown State Park’s **Fall Festival** includes the Chili supper, Dutch Oven Cooking and the Haunted Trail. Campers win prizes for campsite decorating, and pumpkin carving. Kids (and adults) enjoy the costume parade, costume judging, games and of course trick or treat time.
- McCormick’s Creek State Park will be hosting **Fall-o-Ween**, a spooktacular Halloween themed weekend of events. Activities will include a guest speaker with live animals on Friday evening; trick-or-treating in the campground, a campsite decorating contest, a haunted trail around the nature center and other themed programs throughout the day on Saturday.

- O'Bannon Woods State Park hosts its annual **Autumn Adventures Weekend**. There will be family fun for everyone from hayrides, campsite decorating, star gazing to the 5<sup>th</sup> annual chili cook-off and much more!

#### October 28-30

- **"Howl"oween at the Dunes!** is featured at Indiana Dunes State Park. Trick or treating, campsite decorating contest, special themed night hikes, owl banding fun, and more all weekend.
- **Fall Family Fun Days** is a great time to camp at Hardy Lake. During this weekend take the opportunity to decorate for the season. Saturday will be full of fall activities including pumpkin carving, a costume fashion show, a chili cook-off, hayrides, and trick or treating in the campground.
- October wouldn't be complete without spooks, costumes and candy at **Haunted Harmonie!** Our annual event is a favorite including hayrides, games, trick-or-treating, and a spook house.
- Join us for **Halloween Camping Weekend** at Turkey Run State Park. Tour an old home, carve pumpkins, enter a cornhole contest, go on a monster egg hunt, experience an owl prowling and much more! Call 765-597-2635 x 0 for details.

#### October 29

- At Potato Creek State Park **Halloween Happenings**, don't miss this day packed full of festivities. You'll have a frightfully good time!
- **Twentieth Annual Ghost Tales and other Stories of the Season** comes to Pokagon State Park as storytellers Lou Ann Homan and Steve Etheridge spin new and classic yarns of the season at the Pokagon's CCC Shelter. Refreshments from the witch's brew served. Co-sponsored by the Potawatomi Inn, there are two sessions, 6:30pm for families with young children and 8:30 for families with older children. Donation of \$1.00/person/session accepted.
- Monroe Lake's Paynetown SRA hosts a **Campsite Decoration Contest**. Come and celebrate Halloween, decorate your site or help us vote for the winner. Campers will also be able to participate in trick-or-treating, costume contest, and enjoy an entertaining campfire.
- Versailles State Park's **Halloween Celebration** features trick or treating in the campground from 6 to 8 pm and a campground decorating contest with prizes for the top three best decorated sites.

#### October 29-30

- Chain O'Lakes **All Hallow's Eve** is the park's annual Halloween Extravaganza. Grossology (come see what you are willing to eat), community chili (bring something to put in the pot), pumpkin and trick-or-treat bag decorating, trick-or-treating in the campground, hay rides, costume and campsite contest, haunted forest are a part of the fun. You get the idea, now get here!
- At Tippecanoe River State Park's **Halloween Weekend** join in for a weekend of spooky fun. Decorated camp sites, Ghost Stories, Trick or Treating, and a Haunted Maze are some of the activities for kids to enjoy!

## November

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#### November 5-6

- Raccoon SRA will host a **Trapper Education Course**. Plan to attend both days from 9am-4pm.

#### November 5-7

- Join Prophetstown State Park for a special weekend commemorative event marking the **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe**. In partnership with the Tippecanoe County Parks department, the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, Historic Prophetstown and Prophetstown State park, the weekend events will include live demonstrations, talks, tours and re-enactors portraying lifestyles of military, civilian and native Americans during the time period.

#### November 12

- Head to Fort Harrison State Park for the **Return the '40's Dinner Dance** with swing band music and dinner with the Barton Roger's Big Band at the historic Fort Harrison State Park Inn. This event is for ages 21 and above, and pre-registration dinner registrations are requested at the Inn. Dinner-dance-room packages are available.